

# We have Spun a faire TH R E A D:

O R,  
LONDONS Recantation, upon fear of  
her approaching Miseries;

Being a Speech lately Delivered in  
the Common Councill of London,  
upon sight of the Armies  
REMONSTRANCE:

And their Garrisoning of Hampton-Court, and  
other the Kings Houses on both sides of the City,  
with purpose (as is suspected) to block up  
London by degrees, in case the Parliament  
shall not agree to their arrogant  
Demands.

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Printed in the Yeare, 1648.

# Wesleyan Seminary

# THE TITANIC

*... et quod non est in eis. Et hoc est deus.*

ni benevolis & vlo - desq; & gne<sup>st</sup>  
- dle to P. - m. t. m. l. b.  
- alia A. ab to s. d. n. m.  
- a. M. A. T. T. O. S. S.

Enneadecim. Et hinc et nos dicitur  
et quod est in nobis, quod non est in eis. Quia non  
concedimus quod non est in nobis. Neque quod  
est in nobis, neque quod non est in nobis.  
Et hoc dicitur de nos, de eis, de quod non  
est in nobis.



# We have spun a faire Thread:

## Londons Recantation, upon feare of her approaching Miseries.

**I**n my very deede, my Neighbours and Friends, our goodly Armie hath serv'd us finely: they intend for ought I perceive, to give us the home in our boores; and to leave us an example unto all ensuing ages of their wretched condition: that shall wrest the authority out of the hands of their lawfull and undoubted Soveraigne, and put it into the hands of Soldiers: for as much benefit as wee are likely to reape by it, wee have no longer need to boast of our great successes, and signall victories, or to continue our new-moones of thanksgiving: 'tis very probable that wee shall obtaine no other boone of the Armie for them, then what the Gyant afforded *Hesper*, to be devoured last: do wee not now see, that all the specious shewes and gay promises of enjoying Liberties, Properties, Charters, Priviledges, and what not, have beene but Cantharides, and intoxicated Drugs, that have first taken us by the brades, and afterward by the noses? that our little Levites and ambling Lecturers, like so many Sooth-sayers and Enchamers, have introduced us into the hands and toiles of downe-right Tyrants, and caus'd us to enslave oure selves to a Power, whose right is onely its might; that holds none the honest partie, but the Rich, callity and Dreggs of the people; none other Maſhabts, or Delinquencys, but the rich. To tell you plainly what I think,

I am bodily afraid, that shortly wee must open both our Shops, and Purases, not onely hindring our crediting so farre as the Sword shall think fit; in conclusion, lead Gentlemens lives, having little to doe, and little to care. It is evident & certaine, that wee are in a faire way to be rendered rancor furies, than the Christians in Turke, or the Iewes in Avignion: What have wee, wee may call our own? all is yours. Gentlemen of the Army, yours I say, that set your feete uppon our Throats, & intend hereafter whom you please to brand with Malignancie or disaffection; to be of no higher imployment hereafter, but meere Gibonites, orclie bowers of wood, and drawers of water for the Sainted-Israelties, owners of nothing, all at the Armies beck; and that it may continue so, they fill all Townes, Castles, Fortresses, Countries, private Mansions, and particular places, with what Garrisons they please; our Cittie-Priviledges are gone downe the water, our Chamber of London which was held, not onely the Barck of this famous Cittie, but the relief & refuge of our glorious Princes in their urgent affaires, is now gone to the Shambles; nay, our Parliament is not onely laid at, but in danger to be utterly violated, except they will ratifie and confirme that which will directly annihilate and nullifie them. That Power which they first gave being, and life unto, and after rays'd, receiv'd not onely subsistence and warmth, but growth and strength from it, now begins not onely to hisse, but threatens to sting, demanding to be Caesar; and that besides it, there be Natus: The Power and Authority of the Crown (under whose shade the Branches of our Cittie reach'd, not onely thorow the Land, but thorow Christendome) that (they say) must wholly be laid aside; that of our Parliament limited to such a period, after that they have first confirmed the power and domineering sway of an Armie to stand for ever. Is not this out of Gods blessing into the warme, Sun-Neigh-bours? are wee not amended (think yee?) much after the sort of sower Ale in Sumner: yet amidst all our miseries, this is not the least, that hardly are wee permitted to complaine of woes and calamities, to aske redresse, or seeker remedie in them; but holding Death betweene our teeth, wee must say

wee are well ; and that wee are but too too happy, being most  
 unhappy for so good a Cause. O London ! Thou couldst not  
 once away with thy King, so milde, gentle, and clement in all  
 His expressions toward thee, that honoured thee with His con-  
 tinuall residence, enrich'd thee by His constant care of main-  
 taining Peace and Amity with all Forraigne Nations, beauti-  
 fied thee with advantagious Priviledges, and honourable Ex-  
 emptions; fortified and strengthned thee with sumptuous and  
 strong Shipping, farre above any of His Predecessors, that e-  
 ver reigned over thee ; so that he may justly exclaime against  
 thee, in upbraiding thy unthankfalsesse ; *What could I have*  
*done more for my City of London, then I have not done ? Yet*  
 this Prince, Neighbours, wee could not be content to endure  
 among us : How ! indure apon us, said I ? Nay, wee hunted  
 Him from his Metropolitan Cite, from his Palace, from his  
 Bed: How ! hunted Him ? Nay, wee pursued Him; How ! pur-  
 sued Him ? Nay, sold our Goods, melted our Plate, even to  
 Bodkins, Rings, Spoones and Whistles, pawn'd our rich ap-  
 parrell, far'd hard, and pinched our bellies, to raire an Army  
 to fight, take, ruinate and imprison Him: and at what time  
 wee understood of any defeate given Him, or disaster besaf-  
 len Him , our Streets shind from one end to th' other with  
 Bon-fires ; Our Bells sang it from our Steeples; Our Cloak-  
 men clamoured it from the Palpits; Our Churches, that were  
 chiefly Ordained as places wherein to pray for Princes , and  
 commend their welfare unto God (as in whom all good Leige  
 people have undoubredly a part) now being charg'd into  
 Theaters and Changes of newes; where none was heard more  
 welcome then the sad downfall of Him, that is very like to  
 draw ours along with it for company. And now wee may see,  
 if wee will see, nay, feele, what His subversion hath availeid us ;  
 for one wee have many thousand; for Noble Peeres, and Per-  
 sonages of high ranck and qualitie, that rowling in their Coa-  
 ches, were wont to visit our Shops, and to exchange their  
 treasure for our precious commodities; wee are now haunted  
 with Catch-pole , Tax-poles , Hape-chair Committees, Ever-  
 Droppers, Informers, & that catch our words ( yea, almost our  
 looks ) at every bownd ; not forgetting our exacting Excise-

men, by whose meanes wee are forc't to buy our owne before wee can sell it one way, and to pay for it twie what wee buy but once of another. Wee could not once beare a light Augmentation of a small Tax and Imposition of Ship-Money, employd notwithstanding for the glory of the English Nation, the Soveraigntie and absolute command of the King in his Narrow Seas, the safetie and benefit of our Trade, and which Levie of Ship-Money, was every yeare lessened the full moity of the former Proportion : This I say, wee all cryed out upon, as a most unsupportable Burthen, more intolerable a thousand times than the Spanish Inquisition, and more harsh to be undergoen by Spirits, franck and free-borne (such as are wee of London) then the cruellest death the exquisitest Torturers can devise : And yet for these eight yeares wee have tamely endured the Plundering of our houses, the Ransoming of our lives, nay, even ordinarie libertties ; yea, when it hath been observed that we did it at the first without much demur, perceiving it to come easily ; another Hole being suddenly picked in our Coat, wee have beeene forc't to come to the Stake againe, and re-buy our selves to our very drops, of blood, or to lye by it in Prisons.

Wee have within very short time past, seene not onely the strait Imprisonment of two Lord Mayors, the death of one in his Restraint, the immuring of our Recorder, with divers other Senators of this Cittie, of eminent note, and that without any Legall Impeachment preceding ; but also divers Citizens unusually Banished ; yea, some Hanged and Massacred. This wee have beheld, this wee have suffered ; Nay, not onely suffered, but approv'd, and commended ; Neither durst wee, could wee, or knew wee to doe otherwise : Now as in Maladie Naturall, so in Miseries Politicall, the longer they reigne, commonly the farther they spread : Now, wee see the Staffe is just brought home, and set at our owne doores : The Arme meanes hereafter, that none shall have occasion to speake of others, and leave out himselfe ; they'll use a distributive Justice toward us, and serve us all alike : None shall have more occasion of Complaint then another, there's some equalitie in that yet : If they have not satisfac-

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ction (forsooth), in the Points of their Scarting Remonstrance, they are resolved to putt us out of our long Frenzie by a sudden feare, even faire and well block and shop us up by Approaches; close us within the Precincts, if not, the Walls of London; Gage us up, and teach us to sing the dolefull Dittie of *Lachryme*; and make us confess, that now wee are met with indeed: Pray God, in stead of our Tables well furnished for our plentiful Feasts, and choice of daintie Viands, wee are not shortly brought to our Allowance of Bread and Cheese; And for Legs of Mutton, be content to make a meale with Sheepes-Trotters; that a morcell of Powdred-Beefe serve for all Courses: God grant, that shortly wee are not par to our choice of extreme Penurie, or utmost Slave-rie. The Armie would faine make us believe, That what they doe is but for the maintenance of the true Religion, and Saferie, Libertie, and good of the people: which they say, to be *Suprema Lex*. 'Tis well, let's examine a little their carriages and behaviours (not toward the King (for by their Declaration, is out of question) and a thing decided by them) but toward the Parliaments, the people, and us. I have read a little, Neighbours (as my Trading and takings would give me leave.) I have farther in my Youth, as my Masters Factor, seene some Forraigne Countries, and travelled Strange Lands, where I have found the saying of our Saviour Christ to be true; *a fuisse coram cognoscere iudas*. (I thinke my Latin be right Neighbours) at length wee know men intensions by their workes and actions.

First, with fit reverence to the Armie be it spoken, They shew no great respect to the Parliament (their quondam Masters) when at their instance onely, and because they will have it so, the Treatie with the King must be broken off, on whose issue the eyes of the whole Kingdome, nay of the whole Monarchie were fixt, as the ground of their future Peace or ensuing Distempers, and for the maintenance of the truth of Religion, except the truth of Religion consists in plurality and multiplicite of Religions, (not to say infinites of them) I will say nothing but what all England, ye the least child in London knowes; Every man in the Armie hath a Religion af-

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ter his own Fashion, cut out to the size of his own inclination; every Souldier thinking and holding it as unseemly and un-fitting a thing in the Armie to have a Religion all of one Tenant; as their Clothes of one mood, or their Hattes of one colour. Now for their good will towards us (Bretten) I jng you of that, whether their besieguring London in this wile, and stopping, or at least intercepting our Provisions, (taking the best and leaving the worst for our wives suppers) can argue any good will towards us? Nay, my Neighbours, I am of opinion (and so I am sure are most of you) that they draw nigh us rather out of reasons respective to themselves, then true affection relating to us: Truely Neighbours, I tell you p'ainly, I had rather have their room then their company: For as touching Souldiers and Beggers, I love them best when they are farre off.

To cor'c ude, my Neighbours, I doubt wee are all in the trammell of the All-mine, & yet not cleare thence, without losse of haire, if not of skin; wee having had in this matter at the beginning, no more braines then a Horse, have playd halfe the part of Ases Horse: who to keepe him selfe from the Stagge, which he conceived more nimble and active then himselfe, call'd p[er]son to his ayde; but he soone ordered him, caused him to be Bitted, Snaffled, Sadled, and made ready: he speedily mounts him, with a good paire of Rowelled Spurres, rides him a Hunting the Stagge, and every where else he thought good, without ever alighting, unbridling, or unsaddling him, and by this meanes made him manageable both to his Switch and Spurre: for to serve his turn afterwards of him, both to Plow, Cart, Mill, and other needs he should at times have occasion for.

Jult so will the Armie deale with us: And be well assured, That if they once get within us, they will quickly get a top of us; yea, and our Goods, yea, and our Daughter, yea, and our Wives too: And if once a top, wee must never looke to get them downe againe till they have done with them, and then you may fling them to the Dunghill: For I will undertake, what they cast off, the Divell will scarce take up.